chamber luncheon

Please join us on October 11th at **11:00am** for the candidate forum and chamber membership annual meeting (ratification of board member slate of nominees). Note this lunch is 30 minutes longer than usual, so please block out two full hours.

Candidates will each give a brief statement in front of the attendees, and then will move from table to table to answer your questions. Make sure you take this opportunity to learn more about these individuals – some of whom are already representing you, and some who are trying to earn your vote. Bring your thoughtful questions as a member of the business community and let’s keep the conversation going. Candidates for US Representative, State Representative, Supreme Court Justice, Skagit Superior Court, Court of Appeals Judge, Skagit County Commissioner, Skagit County Auditor, Skagit County Treasurer, Skagit PUD Commissioner have been invited.

Our October luncheon is sponsored by Skagit Valley College. Since its founding in 1926, Skagit Valley College has developed strong community connections throughout Skagit, Island, and San Juan counties. By partnering with many of you, we are exploring employment trends, implementing emerging technologies, and creating innovative pathways that enhance student success. By partnering with local business and industry, SVC provides job training that responds to employer needs. To meet the local need, SVC provides high demand training at the Marine Technology Center in Anacortes and the Mount Vernon Campus. Students are receiving training that meets rigorous skills standards and provides opportunities to earn credentials within many professional interest areas. To learn more, visit: www.skagit.edu/marine and www.skagit.edu/manufacturing.

The lunch will take place at the Anacortes Lutheran Church (22nd & O) at 11:00am and will be catered by the Gere-a-Deli. Please RSVP and pay online or in the chamber office to receive the $18 luncheon rate. Payment at the door at the time of the luncheon will be $20. **There will be no raffle at this lunch.**

business after hours

This month’s Business After Hours is at the Center for Pain Management at Island Hospital.

Millions of Americans suffer from chronic pain, far too many accepting that pain is just part of growing older. Pain keeps many from enjoying full lives by limiting activities, costing them thousands of dollars for care and affecting emotional well-being. To serve these patients, The Center for Pain Management at Island Hospital offers The Headache Clinic and Interventional Pain Management Clinic.

For more information, visit www.islandhospital.org.

**NOTE:** To attend the Business After Hours, either park on 26th Street and walk down the driveway behind the building, or use the M Avenue parking area and enter through The Walk-In Clinic. For a map with parking options, please contact Dennis Richards at (360) 299-1310 or email him directly at drichards@islandhospital.org.

Find out more by attending this Business After Hours, Thursday, October 18th from 5:30-7:00pm at The Center for Pain Management is located at 2511 M Ave., Suite C, in the southeast corner of the lower level of the IH Medical Office Building. We’ll have food, fun, and networking!

Please RSVP online or by calling 360-293-7911. Gifts for the giveaway are always welcome!
a message from the chair

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your Chairman of the board! It was an amazing year full of challenges, victories and a lot of fun! We brought the first Anacortes Boat and Yacht Show to Anacortes in May of 2018! Working with George Harris and his team at the Northwest Marine Trade Association. They really know how to put on a boat show that is organized, prosperous for the vendors and most of all, fun for the boaters that come and enjoy the event. Stephanie and her team at the chamber were such a great partner with volunteers and staff helping make this a great event. The Port of Anacortes with Brad Johnson and his marina staff coordinated all of the events seamlessly. I plan on doing everything I can to keep this legacy going each May. Also I am working to bring a second show in the fall to our town. The event in May put $11,000 in the Anacortes Marine Trades Association account. We will use these funds for dock sections to expand the show, incentives or scholarships to bring employees to Anacortes and donations to other associations that benefit the Marine Trades. The boat show also brought money to the businesses in town and will encourage yacht brokers to come here and bring large sales tax revenues to our town. Mayor Gere and her team at the city bent over backwards to support our event.

The Department of Licensing was a challenge with the new system and the relocation. Many ups and downs and it is finally up and running in the new location. A big shout out to the team at both the DOL and chamber staff, for working together to get this done! The DOL is a very important part of the vitality of the chamber. I encourage everyone in town to use our DOL. You can go on line and renew your tabs and pick them up with little wait. Using our DOL in Anacortes will help with the vitality of our organization and save you time. Shop local at the DOL and all the retail businesses in town. If we all work together we can keep the stores we have and maybe support a few new ones! It is hard on our retailers in the age where you can go on line to shop, please support them all year. Thank you again for the opportunity to be a part of the greatest chamber of commerce, Anacortes!

-Mary LaFleur, ALT Insurance

international gateway sign

Thank you Quantum Construction for the quality work on the concrete base for our International Gateway Sign.

Your expertise and cooperation is much appreciated!

Sign installation is tentatively scheduled for late October.
vic volunteer profile

Jim, a VIC volunteer for eight years, was born and raised in Greenwich CT. He earned an Economics Degree and an Army Commission at Boston College and then served as a Military Intelligence Officer in the 82nd Airborne Division. After the Army he returned to Connecticut but decided to trade Long Island Sound for Puget Sound and moved to Bellevue in 1967. For the next 33 years he worked for several Seattle stockbrokers.

In 2000 Jim and wife Sherry started looking for a place to retire outside of King County. They decided it had to be in western Washington and near salt water. Making a list, which included all the towns beginning with Port or ending with Harbor, they started a process of elimination. Unexpectedly Anacortes was the last town standing and they would give it a try. That was 18 years ago.

Besides volunteering at the VIC Jim also enjoys working as a docent at Admiralty Head Lighthouse in Coupeville and serving on the Board of Directors for the Anacortes Senior College. Some may recognize him as the “Cookie Man” from class break. Others may see him as the “Hawaiian Shirt Guy” from Shipwreck Day.

In the past Jim was a long distance runner, rock and glacier climber, down hill skier and backpacker. He coached all four of his children in youth soccer and baseball. Current interests are more of the indoor variety and include history, sports on TV, Netflix, Amazon Prime and especially politics. He considers himself to be an “Adorable Deplorable.”

anacortes sidewalk planter project

For the last 15 years there has been an Anacortes Sidewalk Planter project. For the first eight years of the project, a group privately raised the funds to support the project by having a garden show held at the Majestic Inn in their courtyard. During those approximately 40 planters were purchased, 38 of which still maintained. All of this was done privately. Although the Sidewalk Planter project is not a city or a chamber project they both support it to some extent. The city now waters the plants the chamber maintains funds. After eight years it was decided to go another direction for raising funds for the project and began requesting grants from the service clubs of Anacortes. Kiwanis and Soroptimist have been the best sponsors and we appreciate them greatly.

In the last few years the prices of plants, soil, fertilizer, and other necessary items have skyrocketed. What used to be able to do for $1,500 now costs $3,000.+ The group finds themselves in the position of needing quite a bit more funding in order to keep this project going. Many of the planters are showing their age and will need replacing in the next few years. The hope is to be able to replace one or two each year for the next few years as funding allows.

The group is seeking donations - if you enjoy seeing the planters filled with flowers each year, please consider donating to this project. Any amount, small or large will be greatly appreciated. If you donate please send a check to the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce, 819 Commercial Avenue, Anacortes, WA 98221. Please mark your check ‘Anacortes Sidewalk Planter Project.’ Thank you.

Anyone remember the corn??
Beth Smith (Organizer) and the Sidewalk Planter Project Team
YOUR TIME IS VALUABLE.
We take the burden of business supply
management off your shoulders.
With an Ace Commercial Account, we deliver:
• Janitorial and sanitation products
• Property management supplies
• Paper products and more
Contact our B2B specialist Brent at brobi@aceanacortes.com or call 360-402-5589
or apply online today at TheSupplyPlace.com/05588

Halloween Plans
for Downtown Anacortes

The chamber will be accepting donations
of unopened bags of candy. We will be
passing these out to help support our
downtown merchants.

Candy will be handed out at participating
businesses on October 31st from 3pm-5pm

SAVE THE DATE
November 2nd & 3rd
15th Annual
BREWGRASS!
BLUEGRASS | MICROBREWS

more info at
anacortes.org/brewgrass

Mystic Sea Charters
Whale Watching Cruises
Orca/Humpback
May 4 – Oct 8
710 Seafarers Way, Anacortes, WA
1.800.308.9987
MysticSeaCharters.com

One Happy Island
Flip Flops & Fun Tops
2018 Anacortes Rotary Auction
Anacortes Rotary Club
Friday, October 12 at 5:30pm
Location: Anacortes Airport
$85/person
Purchase your ticket online at
www.onehappyisland.org
OCTOBER 5 & 6

30 BREWERIES
FOOD ★ MUSIC
10 CIDERIES

Tickets available
to purchase online
anacortes.org/beer

Cheers to our Bier on the Pier Sponsors!

Key Sponsors:
andeavor
Puget Sound Refinery

Growler Sponsors:
verizon
Anacortes American

Yard Sponsors:
Pacific Party Canopies
FOSS

Stein Sponsors:
Fidalgo Bay Resort
Tri County Recycling
member renewals

- Academy Mortgage Corporation
- AdventureTerra LLC
- Anacortes Oil and Vinegar Bar
- Anacortes Parks Foundation
- Aspen Power Catamarans
- Bank of the Pacific
- Bubba Sudz Car Wash and Detail
- Burton Inc., Jewelers
- Crowe, Debra
- Darden, Mike - Re/Max Gateway
- Deception Pass Tours
- Douglas N Owens PS
- Eagle Aerial Imaging
- Farmhouse Restaurant
- Fidalgo Island Quilters
- Flynn, Peggy
- Foss Heating & Cooling
- Frida’s Gourmet Mexican Cuisine
- Friday Harbor Jolly Trolley
- grafixCORP
- Guemes Island Resort
- Hersey, Jan
- Humane Society of Skagit Valley
- IRG Physical and Hand Therapy of Anacortes
- LeGros Buchanan & Paul
- Lil’ Tugs Childrens Boutique
- Lincoln Theatre Center Foundation
- Lynne M Lang Accounting & Business Services
- Majestic Glass Corvette Club
- Morris, Larry
- My Biz Pro, LLC
- Mystic Sea Charters
- Petrich, Jon
- Robert W Baird
- Sea Worthy Yachts & Brokerage
- Shearwater Yachts
- Shrimp Shack, The
- Sound Experience
- Synergy Sports Technology, LLC
- Trident Seafoods Corporation
- Wilhoit, Steven
- Zap Pro Lube & Brake

2018 ambassadors

**Chair:** Dan Maul - Fidalgo Artisan Yarn and Clothing

**Stephanie Bayless** - Sherwin-Williams Paint Store

**Brandon Carter** - Robert W Baird

**Crystal Eddy** - Skagit Bank

**Megan Goldstein** - Cap Sante Court Retirement Community

**Barry Harter** - Central Payment Corporation

**Mindy Holland** - Interpreting Technology

**Shona Martin** - Fidalgo Financial Planning LLC

**Jessica Nguyen** - Peoples Bank

**Meagan Schwab** - Peoples Bank

**Carol Van Iterson** - Bank of the Pacific

SAVE THE DATE:
PORT OF ANACORTES COMMISSIONER’S COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE
Thursday, November 8th
5:30PM to 7:00PM
Seafarer’s Memorial Park Building
601 Seafarers Way
Thank you to Commissioner Ron Wesen for presenting, and to Shell Puget Sound Refinery for sponsoring, our September State of the County Luncheon! Fidalgo Bay Resort did a fabulous job hosting us, and Gere-a-Deli prepared another delicious meal. Thanks also to the following businesses and individual members for bringing a giveaway prize.

- Bayside Specialties
- Birch Equipment
- Express Employment Professionals
- Fidalgo Bay Resort
- Guardian Northwest Title & Escrow
- John L. Scott Anacortes
- Lighthouse Memory Care
- Peoples Bank
- Skagit Valley Tulip Festival
- Swinomish Casino & Lodge

Thank you to both the Cat Nap Inn and Fidalgo Animal Medical Center for hosting our September Business After Hours. Thanks also to the following businesses and individual members for bringing a giveaway prize.

- Bank of the Pacific
- Cat Nap Inn
- Fidalgo Animal Medical Center
- Fidalgo Artisan Yarn and Clothing
- Lighthouse Park RV Park & Mini Storage
- Unique Romance Travel & Destination Weddings
- SeaBear Company
Thank you, volunteers!

Visit us on the web at www.anacortes.org

Sassy Frass Company Presents:

GLITTER & GLITZ
VINTAGE Market & Gift Show

OCTOBER 20
9:00AM - 4:00PM
Port Event Center
100 Commercial Avenue

Tickets available online or at the door
AnacortesVintageMarket.com